

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LOUREN 00526 221630Z

51

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 221515Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3510

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 526

EXDIS

FOR ASST SECY DAVIS FROM WALKER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, MZ

SUBJECT: US/MOZAMBIQUE RELATIONS: FRELIMO PRESIDENT MACHEL'S

RETURN TO MOZAMBIQUE

REF: (A) LOURENCO MARQUES 421; (B) DAR ES SALAAM 1218;

(C) STATE 109067; (D) DAR ES SALAAM 1617;

(E) DAR ES SALAAM 1439

1. PER REF D, IT NOW SEEMS LIKELY THAT MACHEL WILL NOT HAVE TIME TO SEE AMBASSADOR CARTER BEFORE RETURNING TO MOZAMBIQUE (LOURENCO MARQUES PRESS HEADLINED TODAY THAT MACHEL WOULD BE RETURNING SOON). IN MY ESTIMATION, THE INSTRUCTIONS WHICH THE DEPARTMENT PROVIDED AMBASSADOR CARTER (REF C) TO APPROACH MACHEL ORALLY, IF SIMPLY TRANSFERRED TO ME, WOULD NOT SUFFICE TO OPEN THE DOOR. IT IS WIDELY BELIEVED THAT MACHEL WILL TRAVEL DOWN THROUGH MOZAMBIQUE, ARRIVING IN LOURENCO MARQUES CLOSE TO INDEPENDENCE WEEK, AND THUF BE UNAVAILABLE UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE. EVEN IF HE COMES DIRECTLY TO LOURENCO MARQUES, HE WILL PROBABLY BE INTENSELY BUSY AND TRAVELING WITHIN THE COUNTRY. HOREOVER, THE VERY IDEA OF A CONSUL GENERAL IN LOURENCO MARQUES CONJURES UP FOR MACHEL AND COMPANY THE GHOSTS OF U.S.- PORTUGUESE COLLABORATION DURING THE OLD COLONIALIST REGIME.

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FINALLY, AS AMBASSADOR CARTER HAS POINTED OUT IN REF E, THE

FRELIMO LEADERS ARE EXTREMELY CONSCIOUS OF RANK. FOR ALL THESE REASONS, I BELIEVE THAT, UNLESS AMBASSADOR CARTER SEES MACHEL BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE, WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RENEW CONTACT WITH HIM UNTIL WELL AFTER INDEPENDENCE WITHOUT A HIGH LEVEL MESSAGE FROM THE USG. AS THE DEPARTMENT AWARE, IT TOOK BOTH A LETTER FROM FOREIGN SECRETARY CALLAGHAN AND THE PERSONAL INTERVENTION OF PRESIDENT NYERERE FOR BRITISH MINISTER HART TO GET HER APPOINTMENT WITH MACHEL.

2. FOR REASONS OUTLINED REF A, WHICH I BELIEVE TO BE STILL VALID, I REITERATE MY RECOMMENDATION THAT DEPARTMENT PREPARE LETTER FROM SECRETARY TO MACHEL, INCORPORATING THE POINTS OR THE GIST OF THE INSTRUCTIONS TO AMBASSADOR CARTER (REF C). MESSAGE SHOULD BE IN TERMS OF INFORMING MACHEL RATHER THAN ASKING HIM AND SHOULD NOT REQUIRE A REPLY. WE WOULD DELIVER MESSAGE IN LOURENCO MARQUES.
WALKER

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NNN

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